

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please amend the specification as indicated below.

Page 14, line 29-page 15, line 9, please amend the two paragraphs as indicated below.

Figure 2 illustrates that 2-methoxyestradiol inhibits colchicine binding to tubulin. Reaction conditions were described in the text, with each reaction mixture containing 1.0  $\mu$ M tubulin, 5% (v/v) dimethyl sulfoxide, 5  $\mu$ M [ $^3$ H]colchicine, and inhibitor at the indicated concentrations. Incubation was for 10 min at 37° C. Symbols as follows: 0, 2-methoxyestradiol; ●, combretastatin A-4;  $\Delta$ , dihydrocombretastatin A-4. Combretastatin A-4 and dihydrocombretastatin A-4 are compounds with anti-mitotic activity similar to colchicine.

~~Example 4:~~

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Table 1 illustrates the inhibitory effects on tubulin polymerization in vitro exhibited by estradiol or estradiol derivatives, plant anti-mitotic compounds such as colchicine, combretastatin A-4 or other plant compounds. The method is given in Example 1.